



# JAPAN CHRISTIAN ACTIVITY NEWS

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## CHRISTIAN PAVILION COMMITTEE REPLIES TO CRITICS

"We do not deny that Expo '70 takes place amid many unresolved social and political problems; rather, we seek to affirm that in these very situations, the eye of Christ discerns the root of the problem, and the hands of Christ work for reconciliation," says a statement issued June 20 by the Central Committee for the Christian Pavilion at Expo '70, in response to questions being raised by a small but vocal body of critics.

Sharp criticism both of Expo '70 and of plans for Christian participation in it have come primarily from small groups of seminary students and young pastors within the United Church of Christ in Japan, in the Kansai and Tokyo areas. In the style of the day, they have been forcing their way to the forefront of district (presbytery) meetings and seminary activities, with questions to church leaders and members of the Central Committee and demands that the United Church at least withdraw from sponsorship. Protestors give the following reasons for their opposition to the Christian Pavilion:

1. The Japanese government is using Expo '70 to divert the people's attention away from the U.S.-Japan Security Treaty, which becomes eligible for revision, upon a year's notice, in 1970.
2. The government is investing in preparations for Expo '70 money that should instead go into public improvements, including much needed housing, sewage, roads, etc.
3. The actual "evangelistic effectiveness" of the Christian Pavilion is questionable, considering the nature of the Exposition, the people who will attend, etc.
4. The Expo '70 theme, "The Progress and Harmony of Mankind," puts too much emphasis on materialistic achievements and ignores the human problems created by industrialization and urbanization.

(Continued on page 5)



GOVERNMENT AGENCY SENDS FOUR JCMA DOCTORS TO CAMBODIA

At the request of the Overseas Technical Cooperation Agency of the government, the Japan Christian Medical Association has recommended four persons for work at the Cambodian Medical Center for terms of one year.

The four men are: Dr. Toru Okura, surgeon, 36 (member, Kyodan Kakinokizaka Church); Dr. Eisuke Ozawa, physician, 31 (member, Kyodan Kichijoji Church); Eichi Tagawa, radiologist, 43 (No-Church Movement); and Dr. Kyuya Tamura, gynecologist, 53 (member, Kyodan Denenchofu Church).

The Overseas Technical Cooperation Agency was established in 1962 by the Japanese government to give technical aid to developing countries in Africa, Asia, Central America and the Middle East, which request the services of Japanese specialists.

FINDING OUT WHAT THE OTHER FELLOW THINKS

Seven Japanese young people will go to the United States, and 17 American young people come to Japan, for the express purpose of finding out "what the other person thinks" about such combustible issues as the U.S.-Japan Security Treaty and the reversion of Okinawa.

Scheduled to leave Japan for a two-month visit that will take in Oakland, Berkley, Los Angeles, Tulsa, then swing through the Middle West to the East Coast are: Chizuko Abe, 19, Meiji Gakuin; Takayuki Ishii, 21, Meiji Gakuin; Yachiyo Tasaka, 25, Japan Women's College; Michihiro Mori, 24, Kagoshima University; Akiie Ninomiya, 22, graduate of Meiji Gakuin; Sei Ogawa, 22, Keio University; Yoko Toriioji, 19, Toyo Eiwa Junior College.

The American young people will arrive in Japan July 5 and live for ten days in Tokyo homes. Three days will be spent at Comei, the Rissho Kosei-kai Student Center. The centers of the university crisis, and visits to Tachikawa and the Sunagawa Site of the Flag Protest are also on the itinerary.

On July 19 the American team and Japanese students will board the Tokyo Maru for a trip to Okinawa and personal contact with the American Forces there, the Okinawan people, and the issue of the reversion of Okinawa.

From August 15-21, Japanese and American students will be together at the Okunakayama Rural Center in Iwate Prefecture.

The two interchanges are sponsored by the NCC Division of Service and the United Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. Rev. Toshitsugu Arai, of the International Christian University Church, presently in the United States, will guide the Japanese students during their two-month visit in the U.S. Rev. and Mrs. Donald Purkey are in charge of the U.S. group, and will be working with Rev. Thomas Paton, Division of Service. Camp leaders will be Rev. and Mrs. Jack Hasegawa, Yodogawa Zenrinkan, Osaka; Tadashi Miyabe, ICU; Miss Shizuko Tanabe, Tokyo School of the Japanese Language; the Purkeys and Mr. Paton.

(Applications for Japanese youth participation in the visit to Comei, the Okinawa tour, and the Summer Camp are still being received at the NCC Department of Service offices, 5-1 Ginza 4-chome, Chuo-ku, Tokyo; telephone: 561-4774).



## ASIAN PUBLISHERS TO STUDY BOOK DISTRIBUTION

Distribution--the link between the publisher and his reader--will be the theme when publishers from all parts of Asia meet in Tokyo, October 6-15, for a Seminar on Distribution, sponsored by the Literature Sub-Committee of the Communication Committee of the East Asia Christian Conference.

The publishers will combine visits to key spots in Japan's enormous book-selling operation with lectures and discussions focussing on technical aspects of publishing and bookselling. Problems of distribution will be discussed in the context of varying national situations and various types of books.

Chairman of the Seminar will be Dr. Tomio Muto, chairman, NCC Literature Commission and a member of the Christian Literature Fund executive committee. Invited to deliver the major lectures and lead discussion are Charles Richards, London Philip Penning, Australia, and Dr. W. H. Wong, Hong Kong and Eito Matsuzaki, Tokyo. Large blocks of time will be set aside for publishers and booksellers to exchange ideas, present problems, and propose new approaches to Christian book publishing.

After the Tokyo seminar, the participants will spend a week in the Kansai area in observation and consultation.

Members of the preparatory committee are: T. K. Thomas, India, Seishi Ogawa, Shiro Aoyama, Kiyoshi Ii, Toshio Kusanagi, and Masao Tsuboi, Tokyo. Observers: Norie Akiyama, Yoshiharu Nakamura.

## NCCUSA AND JNCC PLAN 2ND CONSULTATION ON PEACE

Continuing the dialog begun in the Consultation on Peace held in September 1968, the National Council of Churches of Christ in the U. S. A. and the Japan National Christian Council will sponsor a second consultation December 9-12 at Tozanso, Gotemba.

Christian Responsibility for Peace in Changing Asia will be the subject. The agenda is being prepared by the JNCC Committee on International Affairs, in cooperation with Catholic representatives from the liaison office of the Pontifical Committee on Justice and Peace.

## DOMINICAN PROJECT MOVES TO LAY HANDS

The Veritas Publishing Co. has been transferred from missionary to lay direction, according to an item in Tosei News of June 13. The new company, which replaces the former Veritas Shoin of Kyoto, founded in 1949 by Dominicans, will publish not only theological books but also books for non-Christian readers. It will be operated by Akira Mizoguchi, a member of Kojimachi Church, Yotsuya, Tokyo.

In the ceremony of transfer, sponsored by the lay organization for the promotion of mass media among Catholics, three themes were highlighted: the entrance of laity into the mass communications field; the fruition of missionary effort on the part of the Dominicans; and the increasingly active part being taken by the Commission for Public Information of the Japan Bishops' Conference.

The new Veritas Publishing Co. will be located at No. 7 Kojimachi Building, 5 Kojimachi 4-chome, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo.



### WOMEN CONSIDER "WHO IS THY NEIGHBOR?"

"Who Is Thy Neighbor?" was the theme of the fifth annual conference of NCC Church Women, when 42 women from the six NCC-related churches met June 19-20 at Manazuru Retreat House, Manazuru. Speakers were Rev. Masami Ishii, assistant professor, Japan Lutheran Seminary, and Rev. Ikunoshin Nakamori, Asakusa Hokubu Church.

Participants heard Mr. Ishii stress the fact that the Parable of the Good Samaritan is to be understood not only as a personal ethic but also as expressing the combination of love and justice that should underlie approaches to such problems as the inner city and relations between developed and developing countries. They learned through Mr. Nakamori's talk of his work among day laborers in the Sanya section of Tokyo. They were especially moved by the appeal of women from the Korean Christian Church in Japan to give serious consideration to the new immigration bill that Koreans feel threatens their rights.

"We have discovered that we can help our neighbors in the Japanese church by speaking frankly to them about our problems," said one Korean woman. "This appeal then is not only for us, but is necessary so that Japanese know the problems of minorities and can be good neighbors to the aliens in their land."

Mrs. Sun Ae Chou Kim, of Korea, was a guest at the conference, en route home from the Asian Church Women's team, which was invited to the U.S. for a one-month visitation to churches and women's groups. Rev. Kiyoko Kajiware, United Church of Christ in Japan, another member of the team, remained in the United States for study.

### BIAFRA FUND REPORT

One hundred groups have requested materials to conduct fund-raising drives for the Niagara-Biafra Relief Program (see JCAN May 25, 1969). With the date of July 31 set as the time of winding up the campaign, Rev. Kentaro Bura reports that 14 million yen of the 10 million yen goal has been subscribed. Meanwhile, reports of the critical situation continue to come from reliable sources, the urgent need underscored repeatedly.

### ANDO IS NEW HEAD OF FUKUIN REMMEI

At the 16th General Assembly of the Fukuin Remmei, the Rev. Nakaichi Ando, (69) moderator of the Evangelical Alliance Mission, was elected new chairman. Mr. Ando succeeds Bishop Takesaburo Uzaki of the Free Methodist Church, who served from 1967 to 1969.

### YOUTH PROGRAM CHANGES REFLECT UNIVERSITY STRUGGLE

The continuing university struggles, which provide students with a very immediate arena of action and mean that some students will be going to school in August, have forced changes in traditional summer programs. The NCC News (Japanese) of June 15 announces the cancellation of the Ecumenical Work Camp and the Hokkaido Student Labor Seminar.

A Seminar that will continue is the Kansai Student Labor Seminar. Students work at industrial jobs by day, and in the evening, in the preaching point where they live, discuss problems of labor from the perspectives of Christians. The work session runs from July 19 to August 17.



The Central Committee's statement consists of six paragraphs, the contents of which are summarized below:

1. The Christian Pavilion will take up the problems of men in societies that put industrial production above human life; it will seek to interpret "The Progress and Harmony of Mankind" in the light of the Christian understandings of man, and of the meaning of Creation and Reconciliation.
2. The evangelistic role of the Christian Pavilion is found in its manifestation of Christ's presence in the activities and problems of everyday life.
3. The Exposition is a history-making ecumenical effort of Japanese Christians to surmount their differences and to see themselves as, and express their faith together as, "The People of God." We pray that through working together we can come to the unity for which Christ prayed.
4. In regard to the criticism that it is inconsistent to oppose the government's attempts to nationalize Yasukuni Shrine and at the same time participate in Expo '70, the Yasukuni Shrine issue involves the restriction of basic human rights, it can lead to the revival of militarism, and it is counter to the Constitution. Inasmuch as the Christian Pavilion is precisely the place where such issues can be taken up, there is no inconsistency between the church's decision to take part in this and its opposition to the Yasukuni Shrine Bill.
5. The claim "if you are against the Security Treaty, you cannot support Expo '70," is not valid. Although Expo '70 and the Security Treaty may have some points in common, there is no basis for saying that if you are against the Security Treaty, you should not participate in Expo '70. As an example, the Socialist Party, while opposing the Security Treaty, supports Expo '70.
6. There are many misunderstandings and inaccuracies in the arguments being presented as to why Christians should not take part in Expo '70. First, there is no intention of having the Christian Pavilion represent the "Harmony" part of the Expo '70 theme. The Pavilion is intended to serve as the conscience of the whole Exposition.

Second, the Pavilion is being built through the gifts of Christians in Japan and throughout the world; it has, therefore, no connection with government or business interests.

Finally, it has been said that the Raphael tapestries being lent by the Vatican are a substitute for the showing of the films of the aftermath of the bombing of Hiroshima. But these are two completely separate matters. The tapestries are a symbol of the participation of the Vatican. The request to use the Hiroshima film was turned down by the government. However, through many different media, the whole range of contemporary human problems will be dramatically portrayed.

#### KYODAN MODERATOR SUZUKI HOSPITALIZED

Moderator Masahisa Suzuki of the United Church of Christ is reported in serious condition, following hospitalization and surgery in early June.



# HEADLINE-MAKING EVENTS

compiled by Ichiji Yokota

1968 FIGURES ON GNP PUT JAPAN SECOND, AFTER THE U.S., among the free nations of the world. The 1968 national income of \$146.9 million is said to have resulted from brisk exports, high domestic capital investments, and steady rise in individual spending. Per capita national income of \$1110, 16.4% higher than in 1967, still leaves Japan ranking 20th, however,

OKINAWANS PROTESTED TO U.S. MILITARY AUTHORITIES OVER INJURIES inflicted on some strikers by U.S. military police when the 20,000-member All-Okinawa Military Employees Union (Zengunro) held a 24-hour strike for higher wages and in protest of the dismissal of some workers.

AUTO MANUFACTURERS HAVE BEEN INSTRUCTED TO REPORT AND REPAIR all defective cars, following disclosure of the fact that some 1,200,000 defective cars have been produced and marketed by Nissan and Toyota, and another 2,400,000 by all other car manufacturers. Defects are largely in brake and carburetor parts. MITI has issued stern instructions to replace all defective parts.

FOR THE FIRST TIME IN 11 YEARS, RICE PRICES WERE NOT ADVANCED, but the government will provide the equivalent of a 2.18% increase to growers in the form of \$62 million in subsidies for chemicals and equipment. Consumer prices will remain at the present level. The Cabinet set up a special ministerial council to promote agriculture.

A WHITE PAPER ON TRADE FOR 1969, ISSUED BY THE MINISTRY of Trade and Industry, admits Japan's world trade status is improving. Exports for 1968 were up 24.2% over the previous year, imports up 11.4%.

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According to a survey issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, per capita national income in various Asian countries is as follows:

Japan	\$1110
Singapore	538
Taiwan	209
South Korea	114
Peoples Republic of China	100 (estimated)
South Vietnam	96
North Vietnam	69
India	68

Out of 18 countries, 9 had average per capita incomes of less than \$100. The figures point up Japan's responsibility for economic development in other Asian countries. (from the Tsushin, June 21, 1969)